

PARTISAN DEFENCE COMMITTEE

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!



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Six pro-Palestinian activists on trial and on hunger strike Free the Filton 24!

Since his election, Starmer has brutally cracked down on pro-Palestine protesters, targeting in particular Palestine Action supporters who have taken action against Israeli arms manufacturer Elbit Systems. The Filton 24 were swept up in a series of violent pre-dawn raids since August last year. ***All pro-Palestinians must rally to the defence of the Filton 24!***

The first six of these activists, who are currently on trial in Woolwich Crown Court, have spent more than ***one year*** caged on remand. Since 11 November, all six have been on hunger strike, protesting cruel prison conditions that include censorship and the withholding of documents key to their defence. Their arrests precede the state banning of Palestine Action in July this year.

The six defendants and hunger strikers are: Amu Gib, Heba Muraisi, Jon Cink, Kamran Ahmed, Teuta “T” Hoxha and Qesser Zurah. They are facing charges including criminal damage and aggravated burglary stemming from their action against the Elbit factory in Bristol in August 2024.

The treatment of pro-Palestine protesters casts a floodlight on the Starmer government’s participation in mass murder in Gaza, in lockstep with the US imperialist masters. Protecting the manufacture of the means of genocide is sacrosanct. Those who interfere must be demonstrably and brutally repressed.

In a “justice” system intrinsic to the machinery of British imperialism, hard-won civil rights are simply bulldozed. Despite their charges not being terrorism, the Filton 24 have been subjected to counter-terrorism measures—all of them denied bail, and in the case of the six now on trial, imprisoned far longer than the statutory pre-trial limit of six months. Many of the others will have spent two years or more behind bars before their trials start.

Supporters of the Filton 24 are asking for donations and other assistance, see <https://filtonactionists.com/support-us/>. The PDC has signed the petition and donated to the fund set up to support the prisoners and their campaign. We urge the many groups and individuals who have been protesting the Gaza genocide to do the same: <https://chuffed.org/project/filton24supportfund>.

Across the pro-Palestine movement, we have different strategies to fight for the goal of Palestinian liberation, but it is crucial to unite in defence of victimised comrades. An injury to one is an injury to all! ***Free Palestine! Free the Filton 24!***

26 November 2025

The Partisan Defence Committee is a class-struggle, non-sectarian legal and social defence organisation which champions cases and causes in the interest of the whole of the working people. This purpose is in accordance with the political views of the Spartacist League.